

Special Education Teacher Assistant: Certificate

Faculty of Community And Health Studies	kwantlen.ca/health
Implementation Date	01-Sep-2011
Start Date(s)	September
Admission Type	Selective entry
Enrolment Type	Limited enrolment
Program Type	Undergraduate
Credential Granted	Certificate
Offered At	Langley Richmond
Format	Full-time Part-time
How to Apply	www.kwantlen.ca/admission

DESCRIPTION

The Special Education Teacher Assistant (SETA) Certificate program prepares students for a variety of paraprofessional duties in schools. Special education teacher assistants work in Kindergarten through Grade 12 and assist teachers in providing personal care, behavioral, and learning support to students with diverse needs.

The program is completed in one year of full-time study on the Langley Campus or two years of part-time study on the Richmond Campus. Full-time students attend classes during the day from September through May over one year. Part-time students attend classes two evenings per week and alternate Saturdays from September through May over two years. Course delivery is largely face to face with some blended and online learning.

To integrate the knowledge and skills learned in the program, all students complete two four-week, full-time practicums in the schools over the course of their studies, one in an elementary school and one in a secondary school. During this time, a student will observe, assist, and work with children and adolescents with diverse needs under the guidance and supervision of professional staff.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the SETA program find employment in elementary and secondary schools in B.C. as education assistants supporting students with diverse learning, behavioral, and personal care needs. The SETA Certificate is accepted as a qualification by all of the school districts in the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley, and province-wide.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to Kwantlen's General university admission requirements including the undergraduate-level English Proficiency Requirement, the following program admission requirements apply.

- The SETA English proficiency requirement, which can met through one of the following:

- Grade 12 or the equivalent. Grade 12 equivalencies could consist of the Adult Provincial Diploma or the GED
- English 12 or equivalent with a minimum grade of C
- Approximately 100 hours of successful experience volunteering or working with children or youth, preferably in the schools. (Applicants must submit two letters from employers or responsible persons in the community certifying this experience.)
- Attendance at an information session
- Participation in a small group meeting with Coordinator or designate
- Criminal Record review issued by the BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- If you are not a Canadian citizen, you are required to secure a Criminal Record Search with the Vulnerable Sector from your country of origin. Note that your Criminal Record Search must be mailed directly from the issuing agency to Kwantlen Polytechnic University Admissions.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

This program consists of 890 hours of study for a total of 37.5 semester credits. Credits from the SETA program are accepted for transfer into select degree programs.

Note: ECHS and SETA courses are assessed Tuition Category 2.a.2 tuition and fees for domestic students.

TERM ONE

All of:

CMNS 1216	Writing for the Specialized Workplace 1	1.5 credits
ECHS 1112	Interpersonal Communications 1	1 credit
ECHS 1125	Principles of Observation	1.5 credits
ECHS 1135	Essentials to Person-Centered Practice	3 credits
SETA 1101	Including Diverse Learners in Schools	3 credits
SETA 1105	Supporting Learning in Schools	3 credits
SETA 1120	Principles of Proactive and Positive Behaviour Support	2 credits
SETA 1161	Change and Development: Childhood	1.5 credits

TERM TWO

All of:

CAHS 2120	Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders	2.5 credits
CMNS 1217	Writing for the Specialized Workplace 2	1.5 credits
ECHS 1212	Interpersonal Communications 2	1.5 credits
SETA 1162	Change and Development: Adolescence through Middle Adulthood	1.5 credits
SETA 1225	Alternative and Augmentative Communication	1.5 credits

SETA 1270	Practicum One	3.5 credits
SETA 1280	Health and Personal Care Support for Teacher Assistants	2.5 credits
SETA 1305	Overview of Curriculum for Inclusive Schools	3 credits

TERM THREE

SETA 1370	Practicum Two	3.5 credits
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OTHER INFORMATION

Costs

In addition to tuition fees, students will be required to pay a first-time application fee or a re-application fee, as well as student association fees and other institutional fees for each course. For more information, visit the fees section of the online calendar.

Other costs include the purchase of textbooks and course materials for approximately \$350.00 for 2 semesters for full-time students, \$300.00 per year for part-time students. There is also a \$20.00 fee associated with the Criminal Record Checks. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation to practicum placements. Fees are subject to change without notice.

CREDENTIAL AWARDED

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to receive a **Certificate in Special Education Teacher Assistant**.